

Mecklenburg County Common Code Defects

Plumbing

Code Defects

- Cleanouts missing or incorrect

Code Description

708

CLEANOUTS

708.1 Scope. This section shall govern the size, location, installation and maintenance of drainage pipe cleanouts.

708.2 Cleanout plugs. Cleanouts plugs shall be brass or plastic, or other approved materials. Brass cleanout plugs shall be utilized with metallic drain, waste and vent piping only, and shall conform to ASTM A 74, ASME A112.3.1 or ASME A112.36.2. Cleanouts with plate-style access covers shall be fitted with corrosion-resisting fasteners. Plastic cleanout plugs shall conform to the requirements of 702.4. Plugs shall have raised square or countersunk square heads. Countersunk heads shall be installed where raised heads are a trip hazard. Cleanout plugs with borosilicate glass systems shall be of borosilicate glass.

708.3 Where required. Cleanouts shall be located in accordance with 708.3.1 through 708.3.5.

708.3.1 Horizontal drains within buildings. All horizontal drains shall be provided with cleanouts located not more than 100 feet (30 480 mm) apart.

708.3.2 Building sewers. Building sewers shall be provided with cleanouts located not more than 100 feet (30 480 mm) apart measured from the upstream entrance of the cleanout. For building sewers 8 inches (203 mm) and larger, manholes shall be provided and located at each change in direction and at intervals of not more than 400 feet (122 m). Manholes and manhole covers shall be of an approved type.

708.3.3 Changes of direction. One cleanout shall be required for every four 45 degree changes located in series (a long sweep is equivalent to two 45 degree bends).

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708.3.4 Base of stack. A cleanout shall be provided at the base of each waste or soil stack.

708.3.5 Building drain and building sewer junction. There shall be a cleanout near the junction of the building drain and the building sewer. The cleanout shall be outside the building wall and shall be brought up to the finished ground level. An approved two-way cleanout is allowed to be used at this location to serve as a required cleanout for both the building drain and building sewer. The cleanout at the junction of the building drain and building sewer shall not be required if the cleanout on a 3-inch (76 mm) or larger diameter soil stack is located within a developed length of 10 feet (3048 mm) of the building drain and building sewer connection and is extended to the outside of the building.

708.3.6 Manholes. Manholes serving a building drain shall have secured gas-tight covers and shall be located in accordance with 708.3.2.

708.4 Concealed piping. Cleanouts on concealed piping or piping under a floor slab or piping in a crawl space of less than 24 inches (610 mm) in height or a plenum shall be extended through and terminate flush with the finished wall, floor or ground surface or shall be extended to the outside of the building. Cleanout plugs shall not be covered with cement, plaster or any other permanent finish material. Where it is necessary to conceal a cleanout or to terminate a cleanout in an area subject to vehicular traffic, the covering plate, access door or cleanout shall be of an approved type designed and installed for this purpose.

708.5 Opening direction. Every cleanout shall be installed to open to allow cleaning in the direction of the flow of the drainage pipe or at right angles thereto.

708.6 Prohibited installation. Cleanout openings shall not be utilized for the installation of new fixtures or floor drains, except where approved and where another cleanout of equal access and capacity is provided.

708.7 Minimum size. Cleanouts shall be the same nominal size as the pipe they serve up to 4 inches (102 mm). For pipes larger than 4 inches (102 mm) nominal size, the minimum size of the cleanout shall be 4 inches (102 mm).

EXCEPTION: "P" trap connections with slip joints or ground joint connections, or stack cleanouts that are not more than one pipe diameter smaller than the drain served, shall be permitted.

708.8 Clearances. Cleanouts on 6-inch (153 mm) and smaller pipes shall be provided with a clearance of not less than 18 inches (457 mm) for rodding. Cleanouts on 8-inch (203 mm) and larger pipes shall be provided with a clearance of not less than 36 inches (914 mm) for rodding.

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708.9 Access. Access shall be provided to all cleanouts.

Disclaimer: There may be other ways to comply with the Code. If so, you are not required to use this method to comply with the Code. You may want to investigate other options, or consult with a design professional identifying an equally code compliant solution.

End Notes

North Carolina Plumbing Code & North Carolina Mechanical Code & North Carolina Fuel Gas Code.

International Code Council

Southern Building Code Congress